

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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**For information, contact:**

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
983 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-7711, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: [sjasinsk@usgs.gov](mailto:sjasinsk@usgs.gov)

Hoa P. Phamdang (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7965  
Fax: (703) 648-7975  
E-mail: [hphamdan@usgs.gov](mailto:hphamdan@usgs.gov)

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN SEPTEMBER 2003

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in September decreased 5% from August, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Annualized production for 2003 was estimated to be 33.5 million metric tons (Mt), which was 7% lower than in 2002. Production from January to September was down 8% compared with the same period in 2002.

Domestic phosphate rock sold or used in September decreased 7% from that in August, to 2.96 Mt. Annualized sales or use for the year was estimated to be 34.9 Mt, which was slightly higher than in 2002. For the period January to September, phosphate rock sales and use were down slightly compared with 2002.

U.S. producer ending stocks for September fell slightly from those in the prior month.

Some phosphate rock import data for Morocco, the largest supplier, were suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau data. In addition, Census trade data are not available for the current month. Based on Census figures and data from the Moroccan producer, the USGS estimates that imports of phosphate rock in 2003 have averaged 208,000 tons per month.

Domestic consumption for 2003 was estimated to be the same as in 2002, using annualized sales and use data and estimated trade data.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS, BY REGION<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production			Sold and/or used			Ending stocks <sup>2</sup>		
	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total	Florida and North Carolina	Idaho and Utah	U.S. total
2002:									
January-September	23,400	3,860	27,300	22,600	3,590	26,200	XX	XX	XX
September	2,490	472	2,960	2,420	378	2,800	6,420	2,270	8,690
October	2,580	450	3,030	2,530	375	2,900	6,510	1,440	7,950
November	2,530	366	2,900	2,460	502	2,960	6,590	2,210	8,810
December	2,450	362	2,810	2,390	448	2,840	6,560	2,300	8,860
January-December <sup>3</sup>	31,100	5,040	36,100	29,800	4,920	34,700	XX	XX	XX
2003:									
January	2,580	333	2,910	2,420	425	2,850	6,650	2,030	8,680
February	1,970	321	2,290	2,300	465	2,760	6,320	1,890	8,210
March	2,470	308	2,780	2,680	447	3,130	6,160	1,750	7,910
April	2,180	283	2,470	2,360	398	2,750	5,910	1,630	7,540
May	2,550	610	3,160	2,480	476	2,960	5,930	1,770	7,700
June	2,290	458	2,750	2,300	371	2,670	6,020	1,860	7,880
July	2,250	510	2,760	2,390	465	2,850	5,770	1,900	7,670
August	2,480	577	3,060	2,750	432	3,180	5,530	2,050	7,570
September	2,550	361	2,910	2,610	350	2,960	5,460	2,050	7,510
Total	21,300	3,760	25,100	22,300	3,830	26,100	XX	XX	XX

XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

<sup>3</sup>Data may not add to total shown because of revisions to monthly data.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value
<b>2002:</b>		
January-August	843	36,400
August	142	5,560
September	112	4,910
October	124	5,270
November	86	2,370
December	127	5,230
January-December	1,320	54,900
Total year <sup>3</sup>	2,700	112,000
<b>2003:<sup>4</sup></b>		
January	65	1,790
February	131	5,180
March	110	1,990
April	153	5,610
May	138	5,340
June	82	2,090
July	92	4,270
August	144	5,750
Total	915	32,000

<sup>1</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>4</sup>Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2001	2002	2003 <sup>e, 1</sup>
<b>Marketable production:</b>			
Florida and North Carolina	W	31.1	28.5
Idaho and Utah	W	5.0	5.0
Total <sup>2</sup>	31.9	36.1	33.5
<b>Sold or used by producers:</b>			
Florida and North Carolina	28.1	29.8	29.8
Idaho and Utah	4.7	4.9	5.1
Total <sup>2</sup>	32.8	34.7	34.9
Yearend stocks	7.5	8.9	7.5
Exports <sup>3</sup>	(4)	(4)	W
Average value per ton	W	W	W
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.5	2.7	2.5
Average value per ton	\$49.30	\$41.45	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 5</sup>	35.3	37.4	37.4

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

<sup>1</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>2</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>3</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2001-2, reported by producers in 2003.

<sup>4</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

<sup>5</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 4  
MOROCCAN  
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS<sup>1</sup>  
JANUARY - SEPTEMBER

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Australia	151
Austria	139
Belgium	382
Brazil	383
Bulgaria	24
France	474
Germany	61
Greece	55
India	519
Indonesia	393
Iran	66
Italy	86
Japan	81
Korea, Republic of	196
Mexico	786
Netherlands	13
New Zealand	358
Pakistan	175
Peru	63
Poland	512
Portugal	9
Romania	152
Serbia and Montenegro	144
Spain	1,190
Thailand	148
United Kingdom	1
United States	1,830
Venezuela	69
Total	8,460

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to total shown

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates--  
Casablanca, Morocco.